

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a sterilization indicator using a chemical indicator that is useful for hydrogen peroxide plasma sterilization treatment and a sterilization packaging material for storing an article to be sterilized by plasma sterilization treatment that has an indicator area formed from the sterilization indicator provided thereon. The plasma-sterilization indicator according to the invention, which includes one or more compounds (A) selected from the group consisting of adsorption indicators and metal chelate-titration indicators, and an organic metal compound (B) and is irreversible in discoloration and higher in discoloration speed, allows definite judgment of whether or not an article in a sterilization packaging material was previously subjected to plasma sterilization treatment and thus is useful as a plasma-sterilization indicator. It becomes possible to increase or control the discoloration speed and obtain a superior display performance by adding additionally a polyvalent alcohol (C) to the plasma-sterilization indicator. The sterilization packaging material according to the invention is a sterilization packaging material for storing an article to be sterilized by plasma sterilization treatment, part of which is made of a gas permeable paper or nonwoven fabric and which uses the plasma-sterilization indicator according to the invention for the indicator area, and allows definite judgment of whether or not an article therein was previously subjected to plasma sterilization treatment without affecting the sterilization performance.